

Congolese claim Zaire raids

PARIS, March 11 (R). — An organisation called the Congolese National Liberation Front said here today that it was responsible for attacks on three border towns in Zaire yesterday, which were aimed at overthrowing President Mobutu Sese Seko. The front, which released a statement here, is an opposition group founded in Angola in 1963. It was set up by former Katanga gendarmes who supported Moïse Tshombe, the ex-leader of the breakaway province. The organisation is believed to have now rallied to the cause of the Angolan ruling MPLA party. The statement said of the attacks: "These are purely interior events coordinated and directed by the Congolese National Liberation Front."

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to the visit to November, 1977

On M.E. peace

Rabin expects "tough struggle" with Carter

EL AVIV, March 11 (Agencies). — Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin is satisfied with President Carter's definition of Middle East peace and his distinction between lines of defence and legal borders, according to Israeli newspapers. He made the statement to Israeli correspondents accompanying him on his visit to the United States. However, they also quoted him as saying: "The views of President Carter concerning Israel's final borders signified a very tough diplomatic struggle

between Jerusalem and Washington in this domain." The American conceptions regarding borders were not new, he added. Speaking to a group of Jewish religious leaders in Washington last night, a day after the U.S. leader proposed a new approach to the Middle East problem in which he suggested Israeli defences might extend beyond recognised frontiers for "the foreseeable future", Mr. Rabin refrained from direct comment on the Carter proposal. Asked by a young woman questioner for his opinion of Mr. Carter after meeting the new president in Washington earlier this week, Mr. Rabin said amid laughter, "I see I put myself in trouble calling on you."

West Bank pamphlets call for strike

EL AVIV, March 11 (R). — Pamphlets distributed today in Sharon, on the occupied West Bank, called on local Arab businessmen to keep their shops closed tomorrow in solidarity with the opening of the Palestine National Council in Cairo, officials said here. They said the pamphlets were written by the Palestine Liberation Organisation. Israeli security forces have been reinforced in the West Bank in case of disturbances, officials added.

Palestine council meets today to decide policy

IRO, March 11 (R). — The estinians' parliament-in-exile has a long-delayed meeting tomorrow, which is certain to have major impact on current international efforts to settle the Middle East conflict. Almost 300 delegates to the estinian National Council (NC) will have to decide how or if — the policy of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) should be adapted to the alignment of forces in the Arab World, which emerged from Lebanese civil war. Two days before the Congress was due to open, PLO spokesman Abdul Muhsen Abu Izzar ruled out any change in the National Charter, adopted at the founding meeting of the PNC in 1964 and amended in 1968. "I can tell you only — nobody will discuss the charter," he said. The Middle East News Agency (MENA) today quoted a leading member of Fatah, the largest commando organisation, saying there was no question of amending the charter, major changes in the 11-point resolution adopted at the PNC meeting were unlikely, and other commando

organisations have dominated the National Council since 1969 — and they say they still do — even after the council's extension, the result of pressure from moderate Arab states. PLO sources say that the new council includes at least 100 "independents", who are not committed to any of the fighting organisations or any firm political line. Noone here, however, would hazard a guess on which stand they will take at the meeting. The one thing that can be predicted with reasonable certainty is that such topics as Palestinian participation in a Geneva peace conference, a West Bank state, or recent moves towards a conciliation between the PLO and Jordan will be the subject of heated debate. The Congress is due to be opened tomorrow with a speech by President Anwar Sadat of Egypt. The agenda includes discussion of a programme of action for the future, and the election of a new Executive Committee. No major changes in the committee are expected, but observers here predicted a small expansion, to about 15 members.

Lebanon to send troops under control of Interior Ministry to pacify south

RUT, March 11 (R). — Lebanese leaders are forming a force of internal security troops to defuse the dangerous situation along the country's southern border with Israel. This followed the battle nearly a week ago between pro- and anti-Syrian commandos in Nabatiyeh, a major commando stronghold only 13 kms from Israel. The fighting left 60 dead and ended with commandos of the pro-Syrian Saiga organisation taking control of offices of the Palestinian Rejection Front. In Beirut tonight a leading Syrian political figure was quoted as accusing Israel of "enlisting the help of some factions in the south to create an abnormal situation." Mr. Abdullah Al Ahmar, Assistant Secretary General of Syria's ruling Baath Party, was speaking here last night, but his remarks were only made public today. Mr. Al Ahmar added that "with the help of the legal authorities in Lebanon, we are trying to restore the south to normal." He accused Israel of provoking the fighting in order to clear the region of its inhabitants and urged that villagers

be encouraged not to leave their homes. Mr. Al Ahmar said it was important to work for the restoration of Lebanon's national institutions, an apparent reference to the army which was fragmented a year ago into sectarian elements. In the border region the army is now represented mainly by soldiers who have based themselves in their home villages, where they take orders from commander in chief Major Gen. Hanna Saed. The use of internal security forces would introduce a new element not under the control of Gen. Saed, but answerable more directly to the government of technocrats appointed by President Elias Sarkis in December. Mr. Pierre Gemayel, leader of the Phalangist Party, told newsmen after conferring with President Sarkis today that it was natural that internal security forces should be sent to the region, and he hoped it would happen shortly.



JOY IN THREE SCENES — A man spots and embraces a woman who was among several hostages sent to George Washington Hospital following their release in Washington, D.C., by gunmen Friday.

Strike disrupts Pakistan's main cities, tanks brought into Karachi

KARACHI, March 11 (R). — An opposition strike call today disrupted Pakistan's main cities and brought army tanks into the streets in volatile Karachi to contain widespread violence. The opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA), which was heavily defeated in general elections last Monday, called the strike as a protest, alleging that Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto rigged the polls to stay in power. The strike virtually paralysed Karachi, Pakistan's biggest city of four million people, and provoked numerous clashes. The army moved tanks and armoured personnel carriers into trouble spots in the city and troops in battle dress once fired into the air to chase away people trying to sabotage railway tracks.

which voted more than 90 per cent of its seats to Mr. Bhutto, the strike call was partly effective in the main cities of Lahore, Lyalpur and Multan. Sources close to the PNA high command said the opposition leadership had been encouraged by the response to the strike call to go ahead with a civil disobedience campaign against Mr. Bhutto, whose ruling party won 154 of the 200 National Assembly seats. They said the PNA was expected to launch the campaign tomorrow with organised demonstrations and processions throughout the country in defiance of the ban on public gatherings imposed by the authorities after Monday's elections.

Spanish police crush angry Basque protest

MADRID, March 11 (R). — Police and hundreds of demonstrators clashed tonight in the northern city of San Sebastian in the third day of violent protests against the death of two Basque nationalist guerrillas this week. The clashes occurred as the Spanish cabinet was meeting in Madrid to prepare an amnesty for political prisoners and to draw up rules for a general election in June. Police fired rubber bullets and smoke grenades to disperse a congregation of about 3,000 who had gathered at a memorial mass for the two members of the Basque separatist ETA movement at the San Sebastian Cathedral. Police had

earlier dispersed Basque nationalists who used buses to set up barricades in San Sebastian. The latest confrontation erupted after the mass ended with the singing of the Basque nationalist anthem whose refrain says "We are Basque soldiers and with our flag we will die to save our country." As the congregation left the cathedral, they were confronted by riot police who fired tear gas to disperse them. Shouting "police murderers", demonstrators pulled cars across the streets to form barricades and threw stones at police. In one incident, witnessed by Reuters correspondent Richard Wallis, a policeman repeatedly smashed his rifle butt into the face of one youth who was then kicked, punched and clubbed by other officers. As he limped away, more policemen fired rubber bullets at him from point blank range. Elegant women waiting for taxis shouted "Murderers... Butchers" at the police before hurrying away down side streets when the anti-riot forces turned towards them. Rubber bullets, the rank smell of tear gas, smashed windows and wrecked cars bore evidence of the rioting. The two members of ETA were shot by parliamentary civil guards who stopped their car at a roadblock near San Sebastian on Tuesday.

AMNESTY DECLARED

MADRID, March 11 (AFP). — The Spanish cabinet tonight decreed an amnesty for all political prisoners except those who personally took a direct part in "blood crimes." The only political prisoners who will remain in jail are those convicted of having "themselves" committed murder or attempted murder. Their accomplices, who may have taken part in such crimes in an indirect way, will be freed.

On Lebanon the communique said Col. Qadhafi and Dr. Castro supported "progressive Lebanese forces" and their efforts to maintain the country's unity and prevent partition. Betty Neal, one of the hostages, said Khaalil promised no harm would come to her if she would answer the constantly ringing telephones at the B'nai B'rith building. "He thought he had a lot of compassion," she said later. "He told me that if I was a mother, I would not be harmed. He assured me that even if everybody else in the building died, I would not, because I was helping him."

Libya-Cuba communique shows identity of views

TRIPOLI, March 11 (R). — The leaders of Libya and Cuba have agreed to increase cooperation between their countries and will formalise their closer relationship with regular meetings between government officials, a communique said today. The communique, released here by the Libyan Arab Revolution News Agency Arna, marked the end of a 10-day visit by Cuba's President Fidel Castro. He left Tripoli yesterday. The communique, released simultaneously in Tripoli and in Havana, said the two leaders condemned outside intervention in Lebanon, and declared there could be no peace in the region until Palestine and Israeli-occupied territory were liberated. They also gave their support to liberation movements in Africa and Latin America and condemned "fascist regimes", particularly Chile, the communique said. The two leaders affirmed their support for the Palestinians' struggle to liberate their land and create a national state, Arna said. The communique added: "The two sides strongly condemn defeatist Arab policies to put an end to the Palestine ca-

use, and express their faith that such attempts can in no way lead to the establishment of security and peace in the region."

Castro in South Yemen

ADEN, March 11 (AFP). — South Yemen's President Salem Rubaye' All today thanked Cuba for its timely aid and said his country had profited from the example of the Cuban revolution. He was addressing a mass meeting in the country-side to mark an official visit by Cuban Premier Fidel Castro. Cuba had furnished various forms of assistance "when South Yemen was in difficulties," the Yemeni leader declared. This aid had a "positive effect", he added. Mr. Castro arrived here last night from Libya for his first visit to Yemen. He is scheduled to begin a three-day official visit to Somalia tomorrow.

Washington hostage drama ends peacefully

WASHINGTON, March 11 (Agencies). — A dozen armed men from a small Black Muslim sect who had held 134 people hostage here for two days surrendered today in a deal that allowed the accused leader of the gunmen to go free without bail. As the haggard hostages emerged, bells at a nearby church pealed out a joyful message to their anxious families waiting nearby. Minutes earlier the gunmen had peacefully given up, coaxed into surrender by the ambassadors of three Islamic countries who read passages of the Quran to the leader of the Hanafi sect, Hamaas Abdul Khaalil, at a long meeting.

The freed hostages were brought from the District of Columbia Administrative Building — Washington's city hall — from the city's Islamic Centre and from the headquarters of B'nai B'rith, a Jewish organisation, to a Methodist church. The three buildings were seized by armed members of the Hanafi sect in concerted assaults on Wednesday. A young radio reporter on his first news assignment was shot dead at the administrative building and 10 other hostages were injured during the attacks. Three were in serious condition. Several of the freed hostages bore bandages covering wounds they received during their ordeal. "I used to hate cops, but you have a wonderful police force," one grateful woman declared as she regained her freedom. Weeping relatives and friends embraced the released captives before they were taken to hospital for check-ups. The meeting with the ambassadors at the headquarters of the B'nai B'rith organisation proved to be the turning point in a drama that began on Wednesday morning. Khaalil, arrested and charged with armed kidnapping, was freed without bail by Judge Harold Greene who set March 31 as the date for a preliminary hearing in the accused man's case. Khaalil, 54, is an ex-drummer in New York bands who has business interests here. The judge said the release of Khaalil was part of the deal for the freeing of the hostages. But the 11 other gunmen remained in custody pending their arraignment later today on charges of armed kidnapping. A woman freed from the B'nai B'rith building gave a succinct summing up of their treatment at the hands of the gunmen. "They were not kind." But she added that the gunmen "were sympathetic to everyone's needs".

call and appeared to be "freaking out". The Hanafis threatened to behead their hostages if police massed around the three buildings attempted to storm in. Khalifa Hamaas agreed to surrender after lengthy negotiations with the three Moslem ambassadors and Washington's Police Chief Maurice Culinaro. President Carter praised the efforts of Ambassadors Arshir Zahedi of Iran, Ashraf Ghorbali of Egypt and Sahabzada Yaqub-Khan of Pakistan. "We fed him with quotations from songs and poems," Mr. Ghorbal declared. The three ambassadors also read from the Quran. "From these conversations a rapport developed, a trust was born," Mr. Ghorbal said. "We had a long talk with him," (the Egyptian envoy stated. "Soon afterwards, having helped him to see certain realities, we withdrew remaining brothers-in-faith, and the police moved in and arranged terms for the lifting of the siege."

Mr. Walter Washington, Mayor of America's capital, who escaped from the fifth floor of the District Building shortly after it was seized, was exultant as he announced the end of the siege today. "The ambassadors were really beautiful," Mayor Washington declared afterwards. He said the Hanafis were given promises of judicial immunity to induce them to give up. It was evident, however, that police made some sort of deal. The president was kept informed of developments throughout the siege but maintained his official schedule despite the fact that the nearest building to be taken over — the District Building — is only two blocks from the White House. Khaalil was freed this morning after an extraordinary court hearing held at 5 a.m. Some of the 11 other gunmen could face charges in addition to the armed kidnapping accusation, because of the death of radio reporter Maurice Williams at the District Building and the wounding of 10 people there and at the B'nai B'rith headquarters. Today Khaalil was allowed to rejoin his wife but he was barred from travelling outside Washington without approval. He was also ordered to surrender his passport next Monday, and was banned from keeping firearms and from any conduct likely to lead to his arrest. Khaalil also agreed not to involve himself in any pretrial publicity. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance warmly thanked the three Moslem ambassadors for their help in freeing the hostages. "I wish to express profound appreciation for the extraordinarily valuable contribution made by the ambassadors," Mr. Vance said in a statement. He said the envoys had been asked by the State Department yesterday to meet Khaalil to try to end the sieges without further bloodshed. "They succeeded brilliantly," Mr. Vance said. The American Jewish Congress today praised the ambassadors of the three Moslem nations. Rabbi Arthur Hertzberg, President of the Congress, said in a statement: "We are, of course, gratified and relieved by the freeing of the hostages at the three sites in Washington."

"We are aware that among the factors that contributed to their safe return to their families was the constructive and generous intercession on their behalf by the ambassadors of Egypt, Iran and Pakistan."

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AMBASSADORS — Three ambassadors who succeeded in getting gunmen in Washington, D.C. to release their hostages Friday.

Callaghan, Carter discuss Concorde

WASHINGTON, March 11 (R). — British Prime Minister James Callaghan and President Carter today discussed one of the thorniest problems in Anglo-American relations — landing rights for the Concorde supersonic airliner. The controversial Anglo-French plane, barred from landing in New York despite a federal ruling last year that it should be allowed in for a 18-month test period, was at the top of the agenda for their third meeting in two days. Mr. Callaghan underlined Britain's irritation at the continued ban by deliberately using a chartered Concorde when he arrived yesterday for his two-day visit. The president told reporters after the meeting that he and Mr. Callaghan discussed the Concorde but he declined to provide any details, saying his spokesman would discuss the matter with reporters later in the day. British Foreign Secretary David Owen, who is accompanying Mr. Callaghan, was interviewed about Concorde on television here today. He expressed optimism that the New York authorities eventually would decide in its favour. In a related development, Boeing President T.A. Wilson today came out in favour of the Concorde supersonic plane using New York airports. A similar stance was adopted by George Meany, President of the AFL-CIO labour union body. Yesterday Sanford McDonnell, head of McDonnell-Douglas, also backed the idea of the

Ethiopian cabinet reshuffled

ADDIS ABABA, March 11 (R). — Ethiopia's military rulers announced today government changes including the appointment of a colonel to replace Foreign Minister Ato Kifle Wodajo. Col. Feleke Gedle-Ghiorgis is one of seven new ministers. Ato Kifle was abroad on Feb. 3 when former head of state Gen. Teferi Bante and six other members of the ruling military council died in a shooting at the Grand Palace here. He has not returned and informed sources said he was seeking a university job in Monrovia, Liberia. Today's appointments included 11 permanent secretaries, four regional administrators and a new commissioner of police.

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An encouraging sign

The world's rich and poor nations moved ahead one more step this week in the slow global effort to work out the new international economic order that has been the subject of frantic discussions but not so frantic action over the past few years. This week's important step forward is the convening in Geneva of the UNCTAD-sponsored talks among developed and developing nations to discuss the mechanics of the proposed \$6 billion common fund to support raw materials prices. If the matter is not glamorous, it is of profound importance, because it is the point at which the people of this inequitably divided world have sat together at a negotiating table to work out what is best for all of them. For Jordan, with an economy significantly reliant as it is on phosphate exports, the Geneva talks are certainly of interest, because phosphate rock is one of the 18 commodities proposed to be included in the integrated commodities programme that is being hammered out in Geneva.

There are wide differences of opinion between the two sides in Geneva. The negotiations basically boil down to a face-off between the Group of 77 bloc of nations and the industrial states of the OECD. The industrialised nations are dubious about the developing states' true intentions, accusing them of wanting to raise commodity prices before anything else. The developing states, of whom Jordan can be viewed as a good example, say they want to work out a system of global cooperation that will eliminate the sharp fluctuations in commodity exports from year to year, fluctuations which play havoc with the efforts of developing nations to plan budgetary and investment programmes that are essential for rational development.

There are differences about where the \$6 billion will come from, and how quickly it will be assembled. There are also differences about whether this fund will only finance purchases of commodity buffer stocks, to smooth out export programmes, or whether the money will also be used for investments in developing countries.

The differences are many, and they will not be ironed out without some hard bargaining. But it is a sign of the common sense that has come to prevail among the nations of this world that this bargaining process has now started in earnest. It bodes well for the future.

ARAB PRESS COMMENTARY

Our Jordanian daily commented in its Friday editorial on the situation in the south of Lebanon and the results the tense situation there could have on the Middle East conflict, while a second daily discussed the U.S. military aid recently allotted to Israel by the new U.S. administration, in particular President Carter's decision to supply Israel with an unlimited number of F-16 fighter jets.

AL SHA'B says that at a time when Arab resistance against Israeli aggression is increasing, the U.S. announced its decision to supply Israel with an unlimited number of F-16 fighter jets.

This decision and President Carter's adoption of Premier Rabin's version of the "defensible frontiers" only demonstrates President Carter's total ignorance of all United Nations resolutions on peace settlement in the area and emphasises the similarity between the U.S. and Israeli policies, the paper says.

This position is not a surprise to us as we have previously said that Zionism had abandoned President Ford and adopted his successor President Carter once it had used him to the limit in the service of Israel. President Carter's decision to provide Israel with the fighter jets is but the first act of recognition he is making for the support Zionism has given him. This compels us to warn the Arabs not to place too high hopes in the American intentions or sincerity for its presumed support of international peace efforts.

The time element represents an essential factor and should not be neglected, to prevent the crisis of south Lebanon from developing into something more serious and thus hamper the reconstruction process in Lebanon. The parties should also be reminded that Israel will seize any opportunity to link the settle-

ment of the crisis in south Lebanon to that of the Middle East. This is a trap which all Lebanese parties and Arabs should avoid falling into.

AMERICAN WOMEN OF AMMAN
Will meet at 10 a.m. Monday, March 14th in the ballroom of the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.
Programme, Mrs. Elsie Huffard, (living bible customs).
Bring a recipe for the cookbook.



Palestinian National Council holds key policy meeting in Cairo

By Bernd Debusmann.

CAIRO, March 11 (R). — The Palestinian National Council (PNC), the Palestinians' parliament-in-exile, opens a long-delayed meeting here on Saturday which could make or break diplomatic efforts to bring peace to the Middle East.

The meeting comes after the Lebanese civil war which sapped Palestinian military strength, bolstered the position of Palestinian "moderates" and brought about a realignment of forces in the Arab World.

Mr. Yasser Arafat, head of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), and other moderates have come out in favour of attending the Geneva Middle East peace conference, if it were reconvened, and working for the establishment of a Palestinian "mini-state" alongside Israel.

But it is far from certain whether Mr. Arafat will be able to persuade the council that political power does not necessarily grow out of the barrel of a gun.

The meeting here follows a decision to expand the council by about 100 members, to some 280, and intense lobbying by both doves and hawks to sway delegates in favour of their respective lines.

The expansion was a compromise between the guerrilla leadership and Syria whose influence on the commando movement increased as a result of the Lebanese civil war.

The Syrians originally wanted the national council expanded to more than 400 members, but the final formula worked out called for a smaller number.

Many of the new members represent Palestinian communities in such Arab countries as Kuwait. Others are "independents" not committed to any of the commando groups under the umbrella of the PLO.

Just what impact the lobbying preceding the council meeting — something resembling an election campaign under a parliamentary system — has made on these representatives is anyone's guess.

Fateh officials say they and members of other commando groups will form a majority — but there are deep divisions inside Fateh itself over the most crucial issues.

A two-thirds majority is required for changes of basic policy as laid down in the Palestinian National Charter. It was adopted at the founding meeting of the PNC in May, 1964, revised three years later, and is the main reason given by Israel for refusing to deal directly with the Palestinians.

During recent Middle East peace missions by United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim, U.S. Secretary of State Cyrus Vance and French Foreign Minister Louis de Guiringaud, the Israelis said they would refuse to believe that the PLO had moderated its stand unless the charter were changed.

One of its 33 points says that "armed struggle is the only way to liberate Palestine, thus it is the overall strategy, not merely a tactical phase."

But the PLO, formally accepted as the sole representative of the Palestinian people at the 1974 Arab summit in Rabat, has come a long way since it was created by official decree at an Arab summit meeting just before the first national council meeting.

Moderates say that militarily

the Palestinians are farther than ever from challenging Israel, and politically they have come almost full circle back to the dependence on Arab states of 13 years ago when the PLO was set up.

So the feeling among many moderates is that this is the time to take advantage of the concerted international pressure now being brought on both the Arabs and Israel to settle the conflict in the Middle East.

So far, the Palestinians have not been invited to attend the Geneva conference, which was co-chaired by the Soviet Union and the United States when it met briefly and inconclusively in 1973. Both Israel and the U.S. are opposed to Palestinian representation.

The pragmatists among the Palestinians are willing to go along with the four influential Arab states pressing for a peaceful settlement, Syria, Egypt, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

In Lebanon, their last base, the Palestinians depend on Syrian goodwill. Syria has some 30,000 troops in Lebanon where they imposed the latest truce under an Arab League mandate.

"So why not accept reality, stop dreaming and make the best of it", the pragmatists will ask the meeting, the 13th since the council was formed.

But the hard-line commando organisations of the Iraqi-backed Rejection Front will have none of it. And their insistence on military action, their refusal to negotiate, and their opposition to Geneva might well make 13 an unlucky number for the congress.

Marxist guerrilla leader George Habash said in a recent interview with Reuter that his

Absurdity's loophole By Bassam Bishuti

An inquiry into the pornography of the film "The Sound of Music"

A recent news item had it that the official newspaper of the Chinese Communist Party, the People's Daily, featured a whole page of cartoons. This, in itself, was a surprising development given the grave and sober history of that particular newspaper.

But the joke is not there. Among the cartoons published by the otherwise staid People's Daily was one which depicted a purveyor of pornographic films — which the Chinese, funnily enough, call "yellow" rather than "blue" — sadly saying that his "business is finished". The joke, for the uninitiated, is that since the purge of Mme. Mao and her three radical accomplices — collectively referred to as "the gang of four" — no one is left in China to deal with pornographic films. An example of such pornographic films personally imported by Mme. Mao was the Hollywood production of "The Sound of Music."

It is doubtful if there is any among my readers who has not seen this film. But just in case there is, an illuminating description of it would be that its producers have intended it — and it has been overwhelmingly considered — as the epitome of the genre of "family" films. The sort of entertainment to which you could safely take the whole family without bothering to consult reviewers' ratings.

It was the story, as far as I can remember, of a young, poor, orphaned girl living on the charity of an old convent. She takes the job of a governess at the mansion of a gentleman of the Austrian nobility, just prior to Hitler's annexation of Austria and the outbreak of World War II. There in the mansion, the young woman communicates her love of music and song to the dozen or so children of the widowed, but charming and youthful, nobleman. As all true Cinderella stories end, "The Sound of Music" closes with the poor governess getting her rich and handsome nobleman and the two, accompanied by the army of children, escape to freedom — America, of course — from the imminent approach of that other army: Herr Hitler's own.

It can only be one of two things: Either I am so unimaginative that I fail to see the pornography in "The Sound of Music," or, the Chinese have a totally different connotation for the word "pornography". Since my wife tells me I am always imagining things — and she's always right — I cannot be unimaginative. Therefore, the Chinese must understand something else by pornography.

I set about to investigate this. Recalling my ability to see the late Chairman Mao Tse-tung in my dreams I thought of calling him to ask him. This time I provided myself with a translator so as not to end up with no communicable information as before. When the late Mao did appear to me in a recent dream I asked him, through my interpreter, what in China do they understand by the word "pornography"? With a wave of his massive hand he dismissed my translator, reached into his pocket and fished out a copy of the Collins English Dictionary. Laughing, he then disappeared. I got up and opened my own copy of the dictionary.

Well, the Collins English Dictionary defines "pornography" as: "Obscene literature or pictures." The same dictionary defines "obscene" as: "Offensive to modesty; indecent; filthy; disgusting."

It seems to me, reflecting that the film "The Sound of Music" is indeed pornographic now that the Collins English Dictionary has illuminated my understanding.

Consider it with me if you please. To start with, we have an old fumble-down convent which must be "filthy" to live in. Otherwise, Hollywood producers would not have selected it as the setting from which the aspiring Cinderella wants to escape, and go to the spacious cleanliness of the nobleman's mansion.

The very idea of Cinderella's social ascent: From a poor orphan to mistress of a mansion is "offensive to modesty". Just think what would happen to virtue and seaminess in this world of ours if every modest maiden, innocently going to see "The Sound of Music," thought she also could become mistress of a mansion just because she can sing a few notes!

Remember, also, the downright "indecent" of the young couple in the romantically-moonlit summer house. The boy is shown holding his companion's hands — even stealing a kiss from her young, innocent, lips — and he has the temerity to chase after her, disturbing the chaste sleep of everyone around, singing to her: "You are Sixteen going on Seventeen!"

Recall, if you will forgive my bringing back to your spotless memories, the convent's Mother Superior advising the governess to "climb every mountain". Really! Every mountain?

Who of us, pray, is so stupid not to see the implications of the nobleman's song "Edelweiss"? The German-speaking aristocrat says "vices" and not good-old "weiss". Not only that it is "edel" vice he sings to: Royal vice — just any hand-me-down vice.

But that's not all. The film must surely be considered "disgusting" in the way it seeks to corrupt our innocent, gullible children; for who won't blush full red at seeing the immodest governess teaching the guileless children to remember the notes of the musical scale? It was do(e), a female deer Not just — any old neuter deer.

Maybe, like beauty, pornography is in the eye of the beholder but you have to be utterly blind not to see pornography in "The Sound of Music."

Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the three other Rejection Front groups would withdraw from the PLO and go it alone if decisions in favour of a peaceful settlement were adopted here.

Such a walkout would lead to greater fragmentation of a movement which has been plagued by disunity and internal bickering.

Observers here said it would also weaken the credibility of any moderate resolutions passed here.

Dr. Habash also said that the rejectionists would continue fighting Israel, even if a mini-state alongside Israel were set up.

They would use a Palestinian state on the West Bank of the river Jordan and the Gaza Strip as a base for military operations against Israel, he said, and fight Palestinian authorities in the new state if they tried to curtail commando activities.

Observers here said the PNC meeting was unlikely to produce significant changes in the 11-man PLO Executive Committee, the organization's cabinet which is headed by Mr. Arafat.

Even his opponents concede that he has kept the organization together and has managed to convince many people that the Palestinians are not just "bloodthirsty terrorists".

Observers here speculated that the meeting might result in an enlarged Executive Committee to take into account the expansion of the PNC — and tacit Syrian demands for greater representation for the Salqa commando group.

There was no word on how many of the delegates would come from the 1.2 million Palestinians in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

According to accounts from recent visitors to these areas the Palestinians there are disgruntled with life under Israeli occupation that most of them would prefer even a mir state to the present situation.

President Anwar Sadat is called for a West-Bank state with some link with Jordan — and a PLO delegation recent had talks in Amman with Jordanian leaders, something unthinkable even a year ago.

The idea of a form of co-federal state is designed to ensure that the Palestinians such a national home would not use the West Bank as a base for continued operations against Israel.

Presumably, the establishment of a confederal model would require not only the blessing of the Palestinian National Council but also a formal decision of an Arab summit to annul the resolutions of the 1974 summit in Rabat.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE

JORDAN TELEVISION	AMMAN AIRPORT	VOICE OF AMERICA
Channel 3 & 6 : 6:00 Quran 6:05 Children's programme 6:30 English by television 7:00 Time to remember 8:00 News in Arabic	Arrivals : 7:55 Cairo (EA) 8:20 Dubai (Alitalia) 8:25 Muscat, Doha 8:25 Kuwait 8:45 Karachi, Dubai 8:50 Tehran 9:00 Aqaba 10:30 Beirut 11:35 Riyadh, Dhahran (SDI) 16:30 Damascus 17:00 Cairo 19:40 Beirut (MEA) 19:50 London (BA) 21:00 Larnaca (CY)	GMT 03:00 The Breakfast Show : 18:30 Country Music USA News. to on the hour and 28 19:00 News and Topical Reports 06:30 after each hour. 19:15 Letters from Listeners 17:00 News 19:30 New York, New York 17:15 This Week 20:00 Special English. News/ Words and their Stories 17:30 Press Conference USA 18:00 Special English. News/ Words and their Stories. Feature : Short Stories. News Summary. 20:15 Music USA (Jazz) 21:00 News
Channel 6 : 7:30 News in Hebrew 7:45 Varieties 8:30 Get some in 9:10 Saturday variety show 10:00 News in English 10:15 Movie of the week	Departures : 6:10 Damascus, Munich, Frankfurt (Lufthansa)	
Channel 3 : 7:30 Family programme		
RADIO JORDAN	BBC RADIO	USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS
(On 856 KHZ) 7:00 Morning melodies 7:30 News 7:40 News reports 8:00 Sign off 10:00 Listeners choice 11:00 My kind of music 11:30 Catch the words 11:45 Arab scientists 12:00 Pop session 13:00 News summary 13:05 Pop session 14:00 News	GMT 05:00 News; Press Review 05:15 Letterbox 05:30 Music from Scotland 05:45 The World Today 06:00 News; Press Review 06:30 Bob Holness Requests 07:00 News 07:15 From the Weeklies 07:30 Music from Scotland 07:45 Letter from London 07:55 A Musical Dictionary 08:00 News; Reflections 08:15 Europa 08:30 Doritay Pepe 09:00 News; Press Review 09:15 The World Today 09:30 Financial News 09:45 Come to the Opera 10:15 Scotland 77 10:30 Matthew on Music 11:00 News 11:15 Europa 11:30 Lord Peter Wimsey: Clouds of Witness 12:00 Radio Newsreel 12:15 Take It or Leave It 12:45 Sports Round-up	14:10 Radio magazine 14:30 Good vibrations 15:00 Concert hour 16:00 Old favourites 16:30 Easy listening 17:00 Jordan weekly 17:30 Pop session 18:00 News summary 18:05 15 weekly 18:15 Music 18:30 Varieties 19:00 News 19:10 Music
EMERGENCIES	Cultural Centres	
Doctors : Amman : Fakhoury (24956) Mahatta (59453) Tayseer Saadi (25952) Issa Ahmad Abu Haydar (38670) Irbid : Zarga : Adnan Nasser : Saadeh Zarga : Salam Radwan Abu Hamrad : Pharmacies : Amman : Neel (44433) Tariq (23024) Issaaf (30210) Jamil (37291)	Irbid : Bashar Zarga : Saadeh Salam Taxis : Neel (44433) Tariq (23024) Jerusalem (39655) Ahram (65911)	Ambulance (government) Tel. 70111 Civil defence rescue " 24391-4 Fire headquarters " 22080 First aid, fire, police " 19 Jordan Electric Power Co. (emergency) " 36381-2 Municipal water service (emergency) " 57111-3 Police headquarters " 39141 Najdah, heading patrol rescue police, (English spoken) 24 hours a day for emergency help " 21111, 57777
	American Centre (USIS) Tel. 41930 British Council " 36147-6 French Cultural Centre " 37000 Goethe Institute " 41998 Soviet Cultural Centre " 42263 Amman Municipal Library " 38111	

Handwritten note: هوزا صند القهل

140-year-old man recalls the past

Tragging hyenas out of caves was our idea of good fun

of talk goes around in this part of the world... old timers, who talk about what life was like...

By Fernando Francis Special to the Jordan Times

More than a hundred years ago the ruling power in this part of the world was a powerful tribe from the south of Jordan called Al Sukhour.

The Al Sukhour tribe faced a peasant uprising in the north. Seven peasant families living in caves in Ramtha...

Haj Mohammad Mere'i Al Bashabsheh, an oldtimer 140 years of age from the Al Bashabsheh family...

He is a very old man in excellent shape, who can walk seven kms (as they say) without getting tired...

se and remember events that most people have long since forgotten.

"Amman was tiny then: There were only 10 houses in it. Ruseifah and Zarqa did not exist. We used to live in caves in Ramtha and get our water from the waterfalls about eight kms away.

"In Safar Bariek (the Turkish word for World War I) the Turks sent me to Iraq to cut wood. That was because I could not serve in the army. I was too old. At that time I was around 80.

"I remember the poverty which we endured. We were starving. I married three wives. My first marriage was to a girl in exchange for my sister. Marriage in our time was an agreement between families. The marriage ceremony consisted of the groom standing on a rock and the bride standing on another in the presence of two witnesses. The groom tells the bride 'I am standing on a rock and you are standing on a rock, so would you accept me as your male.' Then they say Al Fatih and the marriage ceremony is over.

"For light we used oil lamps, and dogs used to eat the wick. Our hair oil was camel urine, and my hobby was deer hunting. When I was young I used to go into hyenas' caves - naked as they say I was born - and drag the beast out of the cave and kill him. That was what you now call juvenile delinquency.

"I have three sons. The eldest, Ahmad, is 98 years old. I am satisfied with my life. What I am asking God now is to take me to his side, because I don't want to bother my family.

"I went on the haj to Mecca three times - twice on a camel and once in the soulless thing that moves on the ground (a car).

"I was a mujabber (the man who sets broken bones) and also prepared herbal medicines for the sick. I stopped all that three years ago.

"I lived that long because it is God's will. I eat lots of free ghee, which is made out of pure sheep's milk. I ask my food to be cooked only with that ghee. I don't smoke and I don't like it's smell anyway. I have never tried alcohol in my life. I stopped practicing my marital rights some few years ago."



Haj Mohammad Mere'i Al Bashabsheh: 140 years and still alert.



Still a bit of hair.



(left) sits with his sons Ahmad (98 years) and Mohammad, the 62-year-old youngster in...



WELCOME HOME -- His Majesty King Hussein Thursday meets his children from a week's holiday in England. Princess Haya (right in right-hand photo) and Majesty's daughter by adoption, stayed on in England after their father left London for the airport in Cairo. (JNA photo).



JD17m aid granted for fertiliser project

PARIS, March 11, (R). — France has granted Jordan JD 17 million (250 million francs) worth of credits to help finance the construction of a phosphate fertiliser plant at Aqaba, the Finance Ministry said today.

The grants will consist of treasury loans and guaranteed commercial credits, it added.

The fertiliser plant, to be completed in 1979, will be built by a French company, Spie Bagnolles, with the aid of Hueyry and the Badger Company of the U.S., at a cost of JD 60 million.

Fertiliser production will total one million tonnes per annum. Sulphuric and phosphoric acid will also be produced.

Most of the fertiliser production will be exported to African and Asian markets.

Bar Association elects new president

AMMAN (JT). — The Bar Association elected Mr. Ibrahim Bakr its new president Friday. Mr. Bakr won 257 votes against 167 for his rival, Mr. Ismail Al Mahadeen. Mr. Hani Al Dahleh and Mr. Basil Al Bustani had earlier withdrawn from the running. A total of 450 lawyers attended the elections, of whom 90

were from the West Bank. Following the election, Mr. Bakr was named president, the 10-member board was named. Former President of the Association Suleiman Al Haddad then gave a speech in which he congratulated the new president and members of the board. In his speech, the new presi-

Greece to donate 21 tons of rice to UNRWA

AMMAN (JT). — The United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) announced this week that it had been notified of the intention of Greece to make an additional contribution of 21 tons of rice for the agency's programmes in 1977. UNRWA, which provides education, health and relief services for more than 1.6 million registered Palestine refugees,

uses rice in the basic rations which it distributes to about 826,000 persons. This contribution, valued at \$13,000, is in addition to the government's regular contribution of \$17,000, and brings the value of Greece's assistance to UNRWA since 1950 to \$737,357. On learning of the additional contribution, Sir John Gifford, UNRWA's Commissioner General, expressed his appreciation for the contribution in support of UNRWA's programmes by the government of Greece.

Female workers total 12.7% of 1975 labour force

AMMAN (JNA). — The number of female workers totalled 17,774 people in 1975, or 12.7 per cent of the 28,232-strong Jordanian labour force. This figure excludes the agricultural sector.

A total of 13.6 per cent of these female workers were employed in the state sector, 2 per cent in the industrial private sector and 16.6 per cent in the insurance and finance sectors.

The statistics, issued Friday, state that 13.6 per cent of female workers have completed elementary education, 8.1 per cent preparatory, 27.8 per cent secondary and 8.2 per cent university education.

Minister of culture to visit Syria

DAMASCUS, March 11. — It was announced here today that Minister of Culture Youth Sharif Fawwaz will visit Syria in the future at the invitation of Syrian Minister of Education Dr. Najah Al Attar. The two will discuss cooperation between their respective ministries.

Dr. Al Attar also explained that the coordination plan put forward by the Syrian and Jordanian Ministers of Education stress the unification of curricula and cultural cooperation.

NATIONAL NOTES

* AQABA. — 305 European tourists arrived here Friday for a two-day visit to Jordan during which they will tour Petra and Rum. Another tourist ship is expected within the coming two weeks.

* AMMAN. — The Ministerial Council has decided to delegate Mr. Adeb Al D'eifi and Mr. Kamal Tadrus to participate in a seminar on pastures and animal wealth in dryland regions. The seminar will start on March 19 and continue for 11 days.

* AMMAN. — Minister of Agriculture Salah Jum'a has agreed that a British expert, Mr. Ferguson, should run and maintain the various machines at the ministry as part of the British technical aid.

AMMAN MARKETPLACE

FURNITURE advertisement with image of a chair.

AD-DAR advertisement for furniture and lighting.

Scandinavian Show Room advertisement for furniture.

FINLANDIA advertisement for furniture.

RESTAURANTS advertisement with image of a restaurant interior.

bobalu RESTAURANT advertisement.

WILSON'S SNACK BAR & RESTAURANT advertisement.

NEW BAND AT LE CESAR Restaurants & Nightclub advertisement.

THE FLYING CARPET CLUB advertisement for a buffet.

TRAVEL AVIS advertisement for car rental.

SATELLITE RENT-A-CAR advertisement.

JORDAN EXPRESS CO. advertisement for shipping and insurance.

FLOWER SHOPS advertisement.

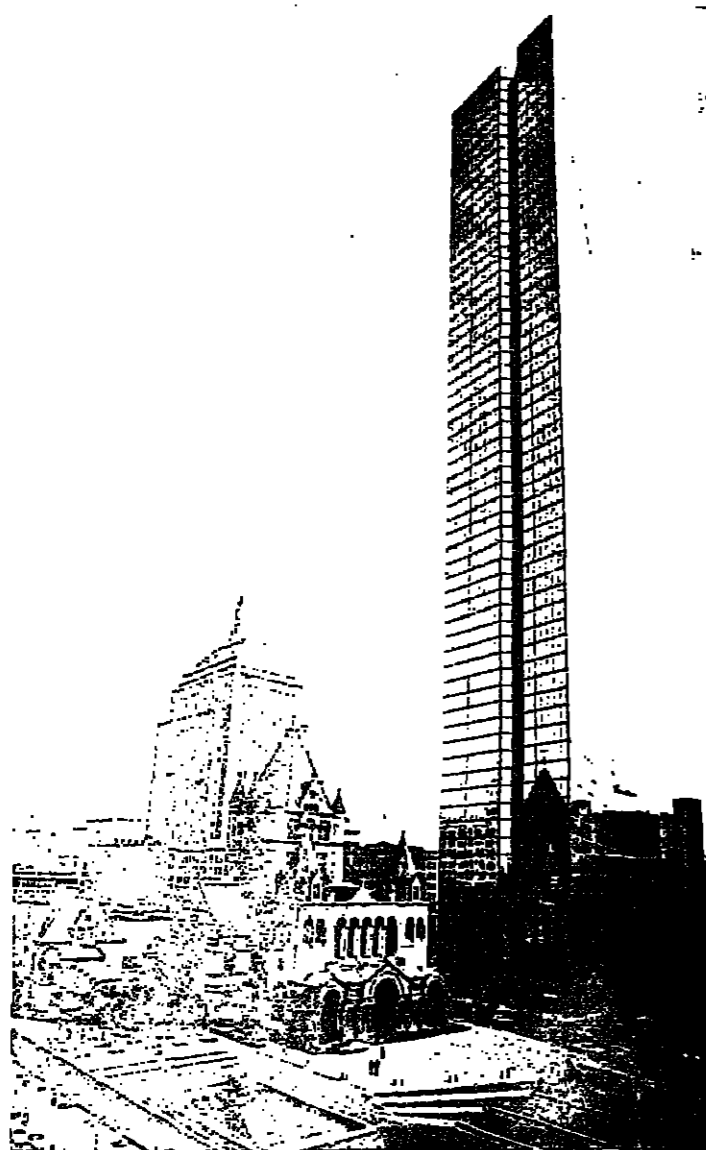
Bouquet advertisement for flowers.

phone 6771-2-3 advertisement.

CONFECTIONERY GIFTS advertisement.

SM SUPERMARKET advertisement.

Boston's completed Hancock building displays architectural prowess



"Big John", as it is now nicknamed, stands 60 stories high with over 10,000 mirror panels gauding Boston's Copley Square below.

Christian Science Monitor chief photographer Gordon N. Converse, took one of the photos of the Hancock Tower from its roof, 60 stories high, and jutting some 20 feet into space. Mr. Converse tells his story.

"On a walk through Copley Square I was compelled, like most Bostonians these days to look up at the striking glass walls of the city's newest skyscraper. The building seems to change in mood as the colorful white clouds and deep blue sky are reflected in its 13.5 acres of glass.

"I noticed the window washers' long narrow platform that had been lowered down the side of the structure. After a photograph or two from the sidewalk level I found myself wondering what it all must look like to the window-washing crew from its morning starting point at the top.

"Figuring the long platform that the window washers used must extend at least 20 to 25 feet out from the corners of the building as it clung to tracks at the very edge of the roof, I asked if it were possible to stop the machinery at that point. Finding it could be done, up and out I ventured with a window washer and a security guard.

"It would have been so easy to shoot over the shoulders of the window washer in the normal way but I would have recorded mostly roof and sky. To get the 'downward feel' that I was after, it was necessary to get into a yet higher position. Locating an ash can used for dirty rags by the cleaners, I turned it bottom side up and climbed on, placing one foot on it and the other on the rail.

"Thanks to the strong arms of the security guard who held me by the waist I captured the photos I was after... straight down. The view was breathtaking."

BOSTON, (Gemini). — Boston's most controversial skyscraper is now complete, and officially open. Like a giant mirror in the sky, it stands 60 stories high and has 13.5 acres of reflective glass that captures the everchanging moods of the city below and the sky above.

Late in 1972 the structure was widely publicised when panes of glass from the original walls began to break and

fall to the street. After extensive testing the John Hancock Mutual Life Insurance Company had the 10,344 glass lights removed and sheets of plywood temporarily set in place.

Today the breakage problem seems to be solved by the installation of 400-pound panes of tempered safety glass -- a three-year project.

Located on the 60th floor is the John Hancock observatory



Spotlessly clean, the glass walls reflect the city and sky.

for visitors, the highest man-made viewing spot in New England. More and more Bostonians are beginning to accept this giant in the sky, and many feel it is bringing new beauty and dignity to the Back Bay skyline.

Westerner tries to acclimate to tradition-filled Japan

TOKYO, (CSM). — "Aren't you surprised at how modern Japan is?" a young magazine editor asked.

"I'm surprised," I said, "at how ancient it is!" Japan was, after all, a country that had supplied me with my tiny tape recorder and a nearly perfect television set, as well as cushioning the lives of friends with cars that don't rattle and motorcycles that hold up.

Venturing out on my first Japanese day, I was surprised to find that women were wearing kimonos as they shuffled along in the Tokyo subways. And in the downtown Ginza area, there was, all right, a Shakey's Pizza Parlor, a McDonald's, a Dairy Queen, and gigantic billboards advertising the movie "King Kong."

But in the finest department stores, rows of kimonos and zori (stiff thong sandals) were prominently displayed -- along with new spring fashions.

Ninety miles from Tokyo on the drive to the Kezon waterfall and Lake Chuzenji, the gray, watery Japanese sky looked like every ancient Japanese watercolor I had ever seen. There is no way to modernize that sky or the silhouettes of the trees and mountains. In Kyoto, it was a surprise to find the same young women who grow up to prefer Western fashions flocking to places like the Ikenobo school to learn flower arranging (ikebana) and the tea ceremony (cha-no-yu), which first gained popularity among the samurai in the 16th century.

The main purpose of the tea ceremony is to help one gain mental composure and peace of mind. But for a Westerner at a ceremony for the first time, keeping track of the bamboo ladle, the powdered tea whipped into a frothy thick green brew, the proper amount of times the bowl should be turned around, and when and to whom to bow brought anything but peace.

In the flower arranging class, I tried my hand at branches from trees, chrysanthemums, and some shorter yellow flowers. "Shin," the most important branch, was the one to start with. "Soe," the middle branch, came next, and "tai," the short one, fitted into the frog last.

My Shin, soe, and tai looked fine, I thought, and then the

no-nonsense teacher in a gray kimono restuffed everything in a way that suited her.

Ten years can be spent learning the tea ceremony and flower arranging. It is home economics, art appreciation, and a finishing school combined.

(The same lovely girls, so graceful at the tea ceremony, nearly crushed everybody in the elevator in their rush to enter before the doors closed!)

In an interview, a Japanese woman was asked what her sister "did," and the answer was, "She is accomplished in the tea ceremony and flower arranging. Oh, yes," she added, "and she runs a filling station along with her husband."

One of the most innocent, artistic forms of entertainment in Japan is the Takarazuka Revue in Takarazuka, near Osaka. This 63-year-old all-girl revue with its four troupes and 350 actresses plays to about 4 million people each year. Only one in every 15 girls who apply is chosen.

Many of Japan's actresses started at Takarazuka. One ancient and one modern play is given at each performance. "Gone With the Wind" will soon be the "modern" feature. Hotels for women are proliferating in Japan. They offer young women a proper home in the cities. That the young girls in one hotel in Kyoto would be enthralled to have an 18-year-old maiko (an apprentice geisha) dance for them was a surprise to me.

The maiko, who wore white makeup, kimono, and three-inch-high zori, refused to perform on a carpet, and tatami mats had to be tacked down in the small corner lobby stage.

After she danced, young women wearing overalls, hiking boots, or slacks and sweaters asked how much money she makes (25 dollars a month plus room and board), how long she has to wear her kimono (eight hours a day), and how much time she gets off a month (one day).

Had she been a full-fledged geisha, a concept that means "entertainer", not prostitute, and is apparently almost impossible for Westerners to understand, her charge for a gr-

oup like that would be 600 dollars for the hour.

One can read that the Todaiji Temple, in Nara, has a 5 1/2-foot bronze image of Buddha, but coming face to face with this eighth-century construction is a sobering surprise.

It was in Nara that the biggest traffic jam I ever saw took place, caused by the 10 cent rickshaw festival of the burnin of the grass on Wakakusayan Hill.

In the Japanese inn in Nara where we stayed, shoes are left at the door and people shuffle around in slippers, shoji screens slide noisily back and forth, and people try to keep the sumo wrestling match turned down low on their T-serts.

The point of the inn is to "get away from it all." I had expected a Japanese garden outside the window. Instead had Japanese garbage, in several heaps.

The 13th-century Sanju Sargendo Temple in Kyoto hold 1,001 Buddhas. Priests chant a pastebord box with "cookies" written on it in English, stood nearby as ready fuel; another visitor was invited to find his face among the Buddha.

But they are not Western faces, nor are they Western eyes. And all of the Buddhas remind me of a Westerner in not one chance in 1,000 to visit this country through a cult other than his own, whether he has been here weeks or years.

The surface of a visit stretches far in length, but not in depth: there's the Japanese boy in the Snoopy sweat shirt, the college student who learned to speak English by watching "same Street" on television, the hundreds of stylish Japanese women who have to remove their high Western-created boots seven or eight times a day to enter their Eastern dwellings, the fact that "Yes, We Have No Bananas" was originally a Japanese song, written in a language that can't express "no" directly.

But the surface is a 20th century surprise because its silhouettes are mostly from another century. And to run Western eye and hand across it is to touch different rhythm, reasoning -- and riches.

Today I cleaned the rice cookie crumbs out of my coat pocket. The cookies are sold in Nara Park for the deer and knew I would be needing it cookies again someday. Two weeks ago I would have been surprised.

SECRETARY WANTED

Trading firm is in need of an experienced secretary with good knowledge of the English and Arabic languages.

Salary according to qualifications.

Please call 61155/6, Amman.

Alia
THE ROYAL JORDANIAN AIRLINE

NEW TELEPHONE NUMBERS FOR ALIA RESERVATIONS

Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, announces that the new telephone numbers of its reservation bureau are as follows:

22856, 22310, 30318, 30319

in addition to its old numbers:

24131, 24132, 24133, 24134, 24135.

Alia
THE ROYAL JORDANIAN AIRLINE

Announces that its sales offices in King Hussein Street will be temporarily closed as of Saturday March 12, 1977.

It has the pleasure to serve the public, travel and tourist agents from the same day at its new offices in Abdali -- opposite the new parliament building -- and its sales offices at the Jordan Intercontinental Hotel.

The telephone numbers of its new sales offices are:

exchange: 62140-62149
counter: 63521-63529



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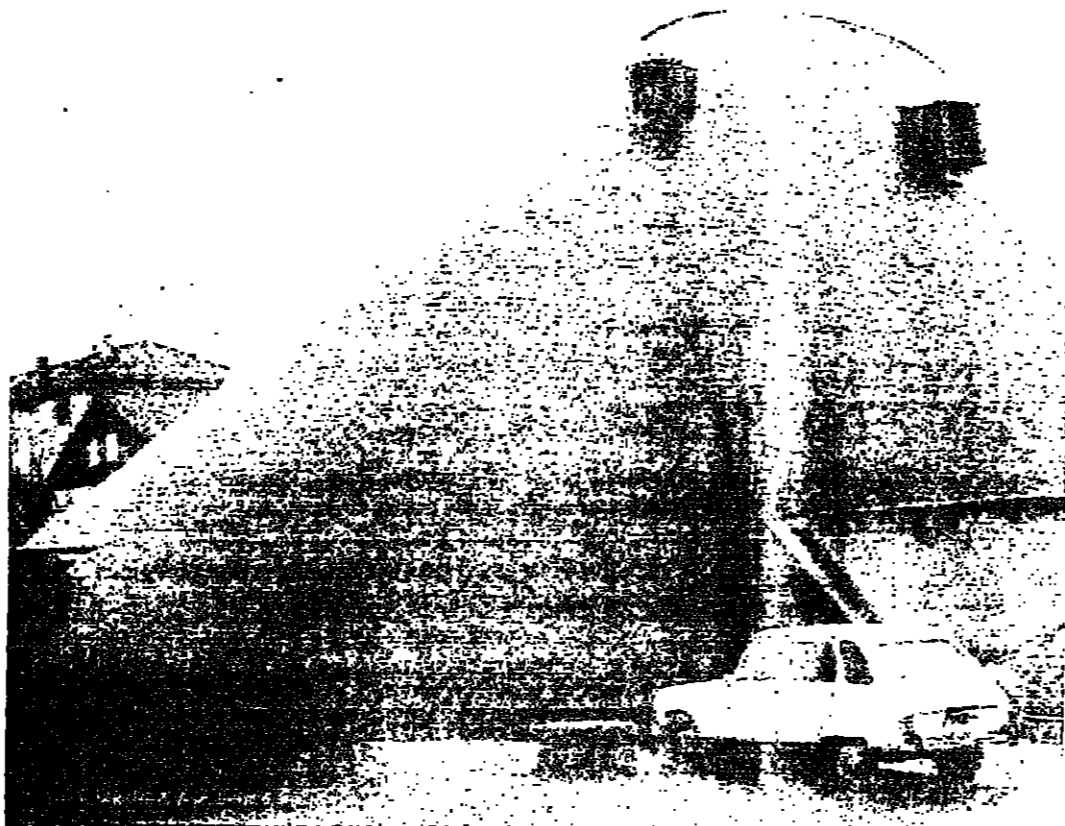
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مركز اصدقاء

THE PAGE FIVE FEATURE PHOTO



AVANT-GARDE - One of the most unusual church designs of modern times in southern Germany is this one built in 1967 at Fellbach. Known as the Maria Regina, it comprises a type of "stump" and seems to be leaning over on its axis. The glass roof allows the sun's rays to shine directly on to the raised pulpit. Unusual church design is the "in" thing, especially in the south, where since 1945 - apart from new Roman Catholic churches - there have been more evangelic churches built than in the whole period from 1517 to 1939. Most of them do not have a bell tower or steeple.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES H. GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
© 1977 by Chicago Tribune

ASK OMAR

In a rubber bridge game last night, I picked up the following hand: ♠AQJ7, ♥83, ♦KQJ82. Partner opened the bid with one diamond. We play five-card majors. I responded one diamond in search of a 4-4 fit. Partner rebid his diamonds. I showed my second suit, hearts, with only one low spade, leaped to spade game. We went in one, losing two tricks each major suit. It turned out that five clubs would have been easy, since I could have discarded my spades on partner's diamonds. Who was at fault? - Davis, Baltimore, Md.

spades over opener's diamond rebid. One thing is certain: you would have avoided the calamity which befell you.

Consider this holding: ♠AQxx, ♥xx, ♦xx, ♣xxxx. Now it would be correct to respond one spade to a red-suit opening bid by partner. You are worth only one forward-going bid, and are not strong enough to show your five-card minor suit at the two-level.

Q.—Can you make seven diamonds on this hand?

- ♠ J9
- ♥ A973
- ♦ KQJ
- ♣ AJ63
- ♠ 82
- ♥ K52
- ♦ 964
- ♣ KQ874
- ♠ 10754
- ♥ J1064
- ♦ 72
- ♣ 1052
- ♠ AKQ63
- ♥ Q8
- ♦ A10853
- ♣ 3

West leads the king of clubs. —H.A. Sharp, Hartford, Conn.

A.—Since trumps are 3-2, the hand is a laydown on a dummy reversal. With the ace of clubs and ruff a club. Goos to the king of diamonds and ruff a club with the ten of trumps, just as a precaution. Return to the queen of diamonds and ruff a club with the ace of trumps.

You can now get back to dummy with either the jack of spades or the ace of hearts to draw the last trump. After you discard a heart from your hand, you will be able to discard all of dummy's low hearts on your spade suit. Your play has, in effect, produced six trump tricks (three on ruff), five spades and the two side-suit aces.

The search for a 4-4 major as become a holy grail to bridge players, to such an extent that they will distort the king of the hand in order to their major suit. The fear to respond a problem is whether to bid a shorter suit before showing a longer one, but how many bids is the worth? The hand is worth two following bids, this responder bid 2 naturally—he first respond in his longer then bid his shorter suit at next turn. Responder does not have to worry about saving his concern must be to his partner as clear a picture of his hand as possible. The way you bid your hand, he expected you to have five clubs and four hearts. He might see three low spades as adequate support. With seeing his hand, he would say whether you should reached five clubs had you opened naturally, i.e., by bidding two clubs first, then two

GRAFFITI

WARNING
YOU CAN STRETCH YOUR COFFEE BREAK ALL THE WAY TO THE UNEMPLOYMENT OFFICE



LAUGHS FROM EUROPE



FORECAST FOR SATURDAY, MARCH 12, 1977

Your Daily HOROSCOPE

from the CARROLL RICHTER INSTITUTE

GENERAL TENDENCIES: This is a good time to do some entertaining and extend favors to those who have been annoying at times. Difficult planetary aspects are replaced by a warm and friendly cooperation between persons, who generally are true.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Take care you do not make any radical changes or go off on a long trip. Do not take advice from one whose ideas are so different from your own.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Try to please the one you love more and cut down on present tensions. Your intuition is not good regarding the handling of some important responsibility. Use your own good judgment.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Know what is expected of you from and by others and try to please while also gaining your own aims. An annoying situation can work out to your advantage if you handle it wisely.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) Take care of pressing chores now if you expect to have time for planned activities later. Don't spend too much for new clothing.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Get into creative work and forget the recreational, which could prove very disappointing now. Don't argue with a close tie who may see things differently.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be more understanding at home today and ease tensions considerably. Not a good day for starting new ventures.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) You may not be able to get the information you need today, so wait for a better time. Think along more constructive lines. Be careful while traveling.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Instead of spending more money, try being more practical and economize instead and build up a reserve. Try being more cheerful with others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be calm during emergencies and you save the day. Forget a social invitation if it is not to your liking and turn to other activities.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Spend needed time improving conditions at home and forget outside affairs for the time being. You have a new plan in mind, but keep it to yourself. Avoid a tendency to overspend.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Try to help friends with their problems without imposing yours on them. A person you are very fond of can do you a big favor now.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Handle those affairs well that give you added support from bigwigs and the public in general. Take care of credit matters wisely.

JUMBLE

THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Scramble these four Jumbles; letter to each square, to form ordinary words.

TIGER

INERP

EFNIC

ASPID



Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Print answer here: AN

Answers tomorrow

Jumbles: FANCY BASIC POORLY SUNDAY Answer: Where you might put your best suit forward—IN CARDS

TONIGHT'S T.V. FEATURE

GET SOME IN

Captain promises Corporal March a promotion if his team wins the final match.

MOVIE OF THE WEEK: WALK DON'T RUN

Cast: Cary Grant, Samantha Eggar, Jim Hutton. During the Olympic game, owing to lack of lodging quarters, two men and a young woman share an apartment. However, the crowded accommodation prove too gruesome for the threesome.

MAKE THE JORDAN TIMES WORK FOR YOU

An advertisement in the Jordan Times will be seen by some 10,000 people in Jordan, Syria and Lebanon. Don't you have anything to say to them?

To spread your word, contact the Jordan Times advertising department by phone at 67171, or in person at the Jordan Times—Al Ra'i building, on University Road.

OUT AND ABOUT

THE CROWN ROTISSERIE

Hotel Jordan Intercontinental. Open daily for Executive Luncheon 1-3 p.m. Special International Buffet on Sundays. Dinner with live music from 7 p.m. to midnight. For reservation, please call 41361 ext. 5.

QUICK MEAL

Restaurants for broasted chicken and light snacks. Take home, lunch or dinner. Jabal Amman, First Circle. Tel. 21083. Jabal Al Luwelbeh, Hawuz Circle. Tel. 30646. Jabal Al Hussein, near Jerusalem Cinema. Tel. 21751. Also in Zerka and Irbid.

For advertising in above columns contact "Sout Wa Soura" Tel. 38869. Open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 4-6 p.m.

CHINESE RESTAURANT

First Chinese restaurant in Jordan. First Circle, Jabal Amman, near the Ahliyah School or CMS. Tel. 38968. Open daily from noon to 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. to midnight. Also take home service—order by phone.

THE DIPLOMAT

First Circle, Jabal Amman. Tel. 25592. Open from 7 a.m. to 1 a.m. Restaurant, coffee-shop, snack bar and patisserie. Oriental and European specialties.

360 STEAKHOUSE

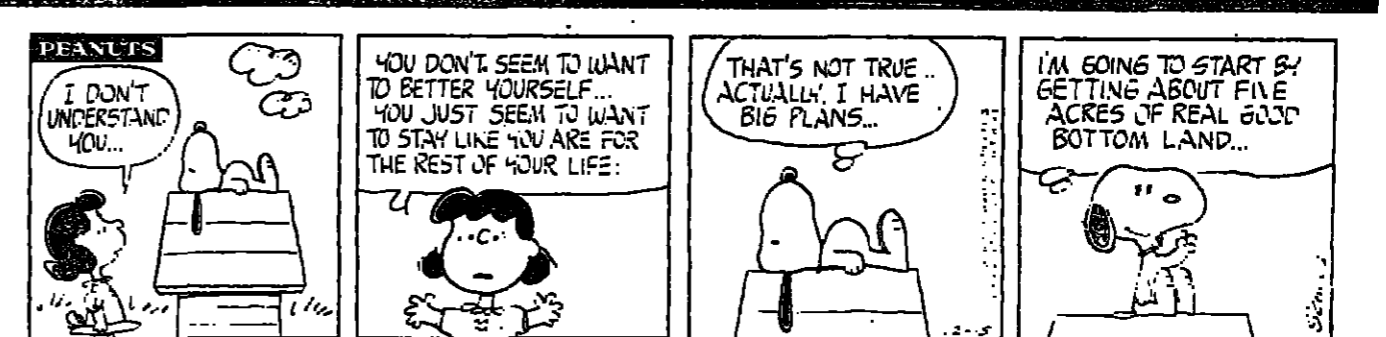
Firas Wings Hotel, Jabal Al Luwelbeh. Tel. 22103/4. Choice of THREE \$5. menu daily for lunch, and a la carte. Open 12:00 noon to 11:00 p.m. Reservations.

THE BETTER HALF By Barnes



"Oh, she talks to them all right. It's probably due to her green tongue."

PEANUTS



Italian Communists rejoice over decision to try former ministers

ROME, March 11 (R). — The ruling Christian Democrats today reacted angrily and the Communists rejoiced following last night's decision by the Italian parliament to send two ex-ministers of defence to trial for their alleged role in the Lockheed scandal.

Under Premier Giulio Andreotti's minority government, the Christian Democrats and Communists have been quietly cooperating on ways of getting legislation through parliament.

But the leading newspaper Corriere Della Sera commented today that parliament's decision in the Lockheed case had now driven them further apart.

This happens at a time when Signor Andreotti faces the problem of piloting through parliament some unpopular austerity measures.

Political analysts said many Christian Democrats would, in fact, be in charge this month.

Herr Hess has served 30 years of a life sentence for war crimes. The younger Herr Hess said the Spandau authorities turned down his application Wednesday and told him to choose a date after March 15.

The 41-year-old architect said it was the first time in about 95 visits by him or his mother that an application to visit on a certain date had been turned down.

He said he believes his father's ill health was behind the Allied refusal.

the charged atmosphere left by the Lockheed decision, oppose any additional close collaboration with the Communists.

The parliamentary decision involved Senator Luigi Gui, a Christian Democrat, and Signor Mario Tanassi, a Social Democratic member of the Chamber of Deputies.

Signor Alessandro Natta, Communist floor leader in the chamber, said the vote had "great democratic and civil value."

This morning's issue of the Communist newspaper L'Unita denounced the Lockheed scandal as "one of the gravest examples of corruption on an international scale, which has provoked deep emotion and deep disdain in public opinion."

Politicians in other parties which voted for the trial of Signor Gui and Signor Tanassi also expressed satisfaction over the decision.

But Christian Democrats took the vote to be a defeat for their party as well as for Sen. Gui.

The Senator himself said the vote was "a political execution which the Communist Party carried forward with determination and the aid of opportunists."



WOUNDED COUNCILMAN -- District of Columbia City Councilman Marion Barry waves from his bed in a Washington hospital Wednesday following surgery for the removal of a shotgun pellet. He was struck in the chest with the pellet when armed men took over the District Building Wednesday. (AP wirephoto).

Zaire implies USSR, Cuba behind mercenary attack

KINSHASA, March 11 (R). — President Mobutu Sese Seko of Zaire today accused influential foreign powers in Angola of organising a mercenary invasion of his country this week.

The official Zaire news agency AZAP, which reported the accusation, did not identify the countries. But Cuba and the Soviet Union are active supporters of neighbouring Angola.

AZAP reported yesterday that mercenaries from Angola attacked three border towns in Zaire on Tuesday in Shaba Province, formerly Katanga.

An editorial in the Zaire newspaper Alongo blamed Angolan President Agostinho Neto's foreign "masters" for the raids but the latest reports gave no indication of the nationality of the mercenaries.

Several thousand Cuban troops are in Angola, according to Western sources, together with a large number of Katangan exiles.

Zaire said yesterday that the invaders captured several towns in the border area, one of the world's richest copper-mining regions.

Its own forces counter-attacked and recaptured positions at Kasaji and Difuma. Zaire also sent a letter to United Nations Secretary General Kurt Waldheim. Its U.N. delegate Umba di Lutete said it was not a formal complaint and he was not asking for a Security Council meeting.

In Washington the State Department said the raiders reported to have detained seven American Methodist missionaries.

Alleged rapes by Libyan diplomat cause furor in U.K. parliament

LONDON, March 11 (R). — Angry British politicians today demanded an inquiry into allegations that a Libyan diplomat had raped two women and then claimed diplomatic immunity.

Conservative Member of Parliament Neville Trotter urged government to protest to Libya.

Two women have alleged they were raped at knife-point by the diplomat's London flat. Police say the case has been closed because the man claimed diplomatic immunity.

Mr. Trotter is to ask Foreign Secretary David Owen to press the Libyan authorities, and he is also to press the government to a statement about why the police file on the issue has closed.

Mr. Trotter said today: "It is disgraceful that someone skip the country and escape just because he is a diplomat. It is an abuse of the diplomatic system."

Labour politician Greville Janner today demanded an inquiry into the whole issue of immunity.

ECONOMIC AND BUSINESS NEWS

Major British banks reduce interest rates

LONDON, March 11 (R). — The fall in British interest rates continued today as leading commercial banks trimmed their base rates by 1 per cent to 10.5 per cent.

Of the "big four" British banks, Barclays was the first to make the cut yesterday, immediately after the Bank of England had announced a surprise 1 per cent reduction in its minimum lending rate to 11 per cent.

Today, National Westminster, Lloyds and the Midland Bank all followed Barclays' lead.

Base rate is the key to all interest rates charged by the commercial banks, and its reduction automatically means lower overdraft charges.

At the same time, the commercial banks have cut their deposit rates paid to savers by 1.5 per cent to 6.5 per cent.

The chief executive of National Westminster, Mr. Alex Dibbs, said the move would give further encouragement to industrial companies considering investment.

The reduced cost of borrowing will thus fit in with the Labour government's economic policy which is the encouragement of investment.

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Swiss banker: Gold is still good investment

HONG KONG, March 11 (AFP). Gold continues to be a sound investment despite "something like a holy war" waged against it as a reserve asset.

Mr. Fred Gyga, Senior Vice President of the United Bank of Switzerland, said here today.

Mr. Gyga, addressing an International Securities Investment conference, said that bullion would remain a store of value for governments and individuals despite International Monetary Fund (IMF) efforts to reduce its role in the world monetary system.

"I am convinced that gold will not lose its importance," he said, adding that he expected it to make a contribution to the restoration of a stable monetary order.

Though he declined to make a definite price prediction, the Swiss banker discounted the risk of bullion dropping below the \$130 an ounce level in the near future.

Leading U.S. banker optimistic about U.S., world economic future

NEW YORK, March 11 (R). — An influential bank economist yesterday described the United States and world economic outlook for the next year to 24 months as bright.

Economist Walter Hoadley of the California-based Bank of America criticised financial analysts and economists for preaching economic gloom and constantly looking for trouble.

In a speech here, he said there was very little risk of the U.S. or world economy going down in the next year to two years.

On the contrary, the U.S. economy had plenty of room for future growth as Americans increased their level of consumption, said Mr. Hoadley, who works for the world's largest private bank.

Western demand for the metal, he said, was holding steady — and even showing signs of firming — while free-world production was tending to drop off.

Estimates from the Zurich gold pool place demand for gold in 1976 at about 42 million ounces, up about 15 per cent from a year earlier.

Noting the mounting debt of Third World countries, Mr. Gyga said that "sooner or later major international loan defaults will be unavoidable." Pointing out that gold might then serve as collateral for new loans.

"We still have momentum. We're not going down. We're going up," he said.

Mr. Hoadley at the same time warned of shortages in the Western World when countries besides the U.S., Japan and West Germany fully recovered from the past recession and utilised their current economic capacity.

He advised economists and analyst to ask themselves to what degree their short-term, trouble-seeking prophecies were contributing to a lack of confidence in the economy.

Mr. Hoadley said there was a current sense of malaise among some Americans but this was a crisis of confidence, not of the economy.

Black nationalists are Nazis to white Rhodesians, says minister

SALISBURY, March 11, (Agencies). Rhodesia's chief of anti-guerrilla operations said today the country would not fall at gunpoint to black nationalist guerrillas whom he described as "tools of Russian imperialism."

Mr. Roger Hawkins, who was appointed on Monday to the new post of Minister of Combined Operations, said in an interview that there is a parallel between the Rhodesian situation and that during World War II, when people fought to defend civilisation against Nazism.

"We are in the same position today. We are facing a war against those who wish to impose a form of dictatorial government at gunpoint on the Rhodesian people."

"The atrocities and barbaric acts which have been committed in recent months (by the guerrillas) have made the Rhodesian people realise that this evil must be eradicated, and I am confident that it will be eradicated," he declared.

Mr. Sanjay Gandhi knows how to please the crowds and rarely inflicts on them speeches lasting more than 15 minutes. He often hits hard at his own party which he describes as an aging organisation, unable to cope with the problems of today.

With the help of a number of ambitious young men he is expanding the Youth Congress, which now has a membership of some five million people, and the Congress oldguard feels threatened. His campaign has made him many enemies.

The sterilisation policy, of which he is considered one of the major promoters, led to millions of sterilisations in the last few months and some bloody clashes which have not been forgotten by his political opponents. They claim that he took advantage of his mother's position to pressure many ministers and high officials and, most recently, was considered responsible for Mr. Jagjivan Ram's departure from the government.

Many of his opponents view Mr. Sanjay Gandhi as a third-rater, without a university background. Cars appear to be one of his major passions. A former Rolls-Royce trainee in Britain, he designed a small car, the Maruti, named after the Hindu God of the Winds. But only a few models were ever built.

An avowed anti-Communist and defender of free enterprise, Mr. Sanjay was nonetheless invited by the Kremlin leaders to accompany his mother when she paid an official visit to Moscow last June.

He has been preparing his campaign in the constituency of Amethi (Uttar Pradesh), adjoining his mother's fief, for a considerable time.

Members of his Youth Congress have been building roads, irrigation canals in the region for the past year. His opponent Mr. Ravindra Pratap Singh, of the Janata Party, a 37-year-old lawyer, was recently released from jail where he was held for 18 months without trial.

Mr. Sanjay Gandhi's chances of election are considered good but his rivals feel that he will become much more vulnerable when he sits in parliament and will have to answer the charges and written questions of the opposition. Many fear however, that if the Congress Party is returned to power, he will become the cabinet's next home affairs minister.

Mr. Sanjay Gandhi, 31, son of premier Indira Gandhi, is the most criticised person in India today. Many of the nation's politicians are already preparing to blame him if Congress loses the upcoming general elections.

Mrs. Gandhi has repeated many times that her son is not fundamentally interested in politics and that he has no ambition to ever become prime minister or president. But these denials do not seem to stand up against his meteoric political rise.

Mr. Sanjay first appeared on the political scene in 1971 when he took part in the political campaign of several congressmen without being a candidate himself.

Now, for the first time, he is running for office himself. In the intervening years he has been particularly active in the Youth Congress Executive Committee to which he was elected in Dec. 1975.

Since January last year he has been scouring the countryside, campaigning for the five-point programme aimed at what he describes as "a cultural revolution". The abolition of dowries, mass education, the planting of trees, family planning and the end of the Caste System.

Tall, dark, with a Roman profile and dressed in the traditional white "kurta" shirt and baggy white cotton trousers,



Mr. Sanjay Gandhi faces the Indian crowds backed by his aides.

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WALL STREET REPORT

Prices edged up a small gain Friday on the New York stock exchange where the industrial average was up nearly one point after a mixed session. An early advance was attributed to the government's report Thursday that retail sales rebounded last month, but then the market settled back into the uncertain -- a pattern that has characterised activity for much of the past few weeks.

Advances outnumbered declines at the close by a 792 to 591 margin. IBM, which had managed a strong advance Thursday, lost 1 3/8 at 282 3/4. Food, oil and aerospace shares were strong. Auto shares were down.

At the close, the industrial average shows at 947.72, a gain of 0.99 points; Transp at 224.48, a gain of 0.92; utilities at 106.69, a loss of 0.19. 18,230,000 shares changed hands, of which 3,180,000 during the last hour.

LONDON MARKET REPORT

Government bonds scored a broad advance during the afternoon session Friday with operators tending to ignore the news that British Leyland toolroom workers voted to continue strike action.

The main stimulant in the bond market was the reintroduction of the market-related formula for the Bank of England minimum lending rate. Marketmen took the view that a further reduction in the lending rate is likely next Friday. Overall demand was moderate but stock shortage accentuated the advance which ranged to over a point among longer maturities and up to 5/8 among shorts. There was also speculation about good U.K. trade figures for February due Monday, traders said.

Equities were mixed and gold shares weakened with the bullion price. Banks ended firmer despite the base rate reductions.

At 15:00 the F.T. index was down 3.3 at 410.5. B.P. was 20p down before rallying to show a 14p fall in further reaction to the proposed Alaskan oil tax. Shell eased 7p.

Unilever, Courtaulds, ICI, Glaxo and Dunlop showed net gains of 2p to 4p. Guest Keen and Metal Box lost 6p and Tube Investments gave up 8p.

Price of gold closed in London Friday at \$148.30/oz.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

TOKYO, March 11 (R). — The Bank of Japan cut its official discount rate for the first time in 17 months today in an effort to quicken the pace of economic recovery. The cut, by half a percentage point to 6 per cent, came soon after the government had announced a new package of expansionary measures. These included speedier implementation of public works projects, increased government assistance for private sector capital spending, and promotion of residential housing construction.

LONDON, March 11 (AFP). — The Channel Tunnel was back in the news yesterday with Transport Secretary William Rodgers saying the government could study it again if the European Economic Community (EEC) finances it. It would be a mistake for the government to refuse a new investigation if EEC aid was available, he said. The government abandoned the project in January 1975 on economic grounds.

LONDON, March 11 (R). — Royal Dutch Shell, one of the world's biggest oil groups, yesterday reported net profits last year totalling £1,300 million, a rise of £350 million on the previous year. The Anglo-Dutch group, whose profits are split 60-40 between its twin headquarters in Rotterdam and London, said all the main parts of its business improved during 1976 despite the slowing down of the world economic recovery in the second six months.

BRUSSELS, March 11 (AFP). — The Soviet Union and the nine-nation European Economic Community (EEC) yesterday broke off negotiations until April 19 on a long-term fisheries agreement. The decision to break off the talks was decided upon by both sides because of major disagreements, an EEC source in Brussels said.

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